January 7, 2008

# Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of	)		•
Amendment of Service and	) .	•	
Eligibility Rules for FM Br	oadcast )	MD Docket	No. 07-172
Translator Stations	)	RM-11338	

Comments on Behalf of Shenandoah Communications, Inc.

These comments are filed on behalf of Shenandoah Communications, Inc. ("Shenandoah"), licensee of daytime radio station and is in response to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") in the matter of "Amendment of Service of Eligibility Rules for FM Broadcast Translator Stations" in MB Docket No. 07-172, RM-1138. Shenandoah began operations in 1976. Currently, its licensed operation is WRNR, Martinsburg, West Virginia 740 kHz 500 watts DA-D.

Shenandoah supports the NPRM to permit daytime only stations such as WRNR to operate with an FM translator so that it can augment its current broadcast programming particularly during nighttime hours during which WRNR can operate with only 21 watts directional.

WRNR was granted the right to operate at night with 21 watts in September, 1985. In the intervening years, the population of this area has grown by nearly four hundred percent. The local listening public wants and needs current information on local and state news, local weather conditions and national and international events. WRNR is the only radio station in the eastern panhandle of West Virginia that heavily programs blocks of local news, weather, sports and related information during the morning and afternoon drive and noon dayparts. The listening public looks to WRNR for important local information and we have been recognized frequently by both the West Virginia Associated Press and West Virginia Broadcasters Association for excellence in local news and local programming. Enclosed please find two press releases detailing recognition received from the Associated Press and West Virginia Broadcasters Association in 2007.

# Shenandoah Communications, Inc.

P.O. Box 709, 1762 Eagle School Road, Martinsburg, WV 25402-0709 info@talkradiowrnr.com • www.talkradiowrnr.com

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WRNR has been broadcasting 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for nearly 20 years with a strong nighttime concentration of local high school sports interspersed with college and professional sports and news/talk programming.

During situations such as flooding or heavy snowfall we constantly provide reports on cancellations, local emergency situations and instructions from local officials. However, much of our home city of Martinsburg and home county of Berkeley can often not hear our broadcasts due to our very weak 21 watt nighttime signal. While WRNR makes strong efforts to serve the public with timely information, the listening pubic often cannot get needed information: We receive frequent comments and questions from the public about the weak nighttime coverage and whether there is hope for improvement.

WRNR strongly supports the NPRM. The NPRM will clearly allow us to much better serve the listening public in our area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Richard S. Wachtel

President/General Manager

Enclosures (2)

For immediate release

Rick Wachtel 304-263-6586

#### TALKRADIO WRNR, MARTINSBURG NAMED STATES' BEST FOR 2006

TalkRadio WRNR. AM740, Martinsburg, was recently honored as the #1 radio station in West Virginia for news and sports operations in all markets, as judged by the Associated Press broadcast members from the state of Arkansas.

For an unprecedented tenth year, WRNR's Tom Tucker was once again honored for best sportscasts in the stat. Tucker, also station Program Director, airs over 1,200 annual sportscasts weekday mornings on AM740; Comcast Cable Channel 10, and talkradiowrn.com.

WRNR Sports Director Matt Miller also led the sports broadcasting charge as WRNR was voted Outstanding Sports Operation in the mountain state for 2006. WRNR broadcasts over 500 sporting events per year, including over 100 locally produced youth, high school and college contests, with Miller delivering the play-by-play at home and on the road.

Miller's fall football talk show, "Inside the Game", was also lauded as the #1 sports radio talk show among state stations. An emphasis on area high school and college football action, "Inside the Game" focuses on local athletes and coaches.

In radio news honors, WRNR news director Al McGilvray and award-winning anchor Julie Carrington led WRNR in all markets as Outstanding News Operation for 2006. Accurate writing and on-air delivery, plus on-location coverage, boosted WRNR to the top. Anchors Ethan Fischer and Dana Bateman provide afternoon coverage along with Mike Emery on Sunday mornings.

Carrington's work as mid-day news anchor propelled WRNR to state runner-up recognition for Best Regularly Scheduled Newscasts.

In talk programming, WRNR's weekday morning "Eastern Panhandle Talk", with host Tom Tucker, was awarded state runner-up in 2006 for Best Talk Show. EPT airs Monday through Friday mornings from 8:40-10:00am and also on <a href="https://www.talkradiowrnr.com">www.talkradiowrnr.com</a>.

Awarded top Associated Press honors for all stations and markets in radio news and sports, WRNR's 30<sup>th</sup> broadcast anniversary year of 2006 is one to remember.

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## TalkRadio WRNR, Martinsburg honored as "NEWS-TALK-SPORTS STATION OF THE YEAR"

TalkRadio WRNR in Martinsburg was recently honored by the West Virginia Broadcasters Association in Charleston on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007. WRNR received 3 major broadcasting awards in excellence for unranked market radio stations around the state.

NEWS-TALK-SPORTS STATION OF THE YEAR. News Director Al McGilvray, Program Director Tom Tucker, and Sports Director Matt Miller, led an ambitious broadcast agenda once again and are honored by their contemporaries statewide. WRNR carries over 4,000 locally produced newscasts and events by the WRNR News Crew; over 500 sporting events annually with over 100 locally produced play-by-play events and 1,600 sportscasts. In talk programming, WRNR's Eastern Panhandle Talk led off every weekday morning complemented by some of the nation's top-rated talk show hosts hitting the airwaves daily, weekly and weekends. A plethora of Talk - from home improvement to psychological and political topics - proved to be very popular with listeners.

BEST SPOT NEWS OR EVENT COVERAGE. News Director Al McGilvray and his news anchors hit the road with on-the-scene live coverage of political and catastrophic events.

BEST SPORTSCAST. Morning Sports Anchor Tom Tucker delivers over 1,200 sportscasts per year. This is the tenth year Tom has received #1 sportscasting honors in the mountain state of West Virginia.

TalkRadio WRNR tri-casts on the radio at 740AM, Comcast Cable television Channel 10, and on-the-web at talkradiowrnr.com

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